

the organized farmer

Vol. 25

Septemb 14, 1964, Edmonton, Alberta

No. 21



Lester Hemeyer



Miss Sheilah Walker

Pool Bursaries Awarded

Bursaries worth up to \$2,500 each have been awarded by the Alberta Wheat Pool to two farm young people — Sheilah Walker of Hines Creek, and Lester Hemeyer of Ponoka.

These bursaries are paid out at the rate of \$500 a year for up to five undergraduate years of study and are tenable at the University of Alberta or associated junior colleges.

Miss Walker, 17 years of age, will attend U. of A. in Edmonton and will enroll in Medical Laboratory Science. Her early schooling was taken in a one-room rural school and since then has attended the school in Hines Creek, graduating from grade twelve with an average of 86.2 percent. She is the daughter of the FWUA Director for District 2, Mrs. T. H. Walker.

Lester Hemeyer, also 17 years of age, attended rural schools through grade eleven and took his grade twelve at Ponoka where he attained an average of 84.0 percent. He will take his first year of university at the Red Deer Junior College.

Both the young people have been active participants in youth activities.

The Wheat Pool Bursaries, two of which are awarded each year, are restricted to sons or daughters of farmers. As well as this year's winners, bursary holders attending university this term include George Cushon of DeWinton, Marshall Kotowich of Myrnam, Rich-

ard Hibbard of Nampa, Sharon Tippie of Stettler, Marion Dey of Ardrossan and Brain Ekstrom of Balzac.

Later that evening, Ralph Cook, Secretary of the Montana Farmers' Union, and his wife drove me around the city for two hours to point out points of interest. We toured the Montana Farmers' Union office. While there, I witnessed the damage of the flood that hit Southern Alberta and Montana. Furniture and records in the office basement were ruined as water poured in. The water was pumped out slowly, day by day, for four weeks.

Saturday morning, I was joined by a group of nine people from Montana including state President Leonard Kenfield, and two Farmers' Union cars and we started south. After having passed a wide variety of countryside and scenery

COLORADO HOSTS JR. FARM LEADER

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION LEADERS' SEMINAR, FARMERS' UNION CENTRE

Bailey, Colorado, August 9-12

By Carol Szymanek

Early Friday morning, August 7th I boarded the bus at Red Deer and headed for Bailey, Colorado, where I attended the first National Farmers' Union Leaders' Seminar at the Farmers' Union Centre. I arrived in Great Falls that afternoon and was met by representatives from the Montana Farmers' Union.

Miss Carol A. Szymanek, who earlier this summer was picked as the Junior FUA's first Junior Farm Leader of the Year, was invited to take part in the United States National Farmers' Union Leadership Seminar at the NFU youth centre at Bailey Colorado, a guest of the NFU.

Here is her report. In a covering letter, Miss Szymanek said she hopes this type of trip could be arranged on a larger scale in the future. "This is," she states, "Also the hope of NFU President James Patton."

in Montana, Wyoming and Colorado we arrived in Bailey, late Sunday Afternoon.

In Wyoming I saw a new type of country. It did not take too long to discover that if I wanted to see green grass it would be necessary to put on sunglasses. While travelling we slept in luxurious hotels — T.V.'s and all! This was a new and exciting experience.

NEAR PIKE'S PEAK

Bailey is located forty-one miles south west of Denver. It is in mountain country surrounded by Pikes Peak National Forest in Park county. The camp itself, is situated ¾ miles from Bailey on a three hundred acre site extending on both sides of the Platte river. (It closely resembles the site of Goldeye Lake Camp). The main camp centre, the Triangle Lodge is an A-Frame building costing \$128,000. This building, 160 ft. long, 60 ft. wide and 40 ft. from the floor to roof peak,

(Continued on Page 4)



Miss Carol Szymanek

Four Speakers - More to Come As Annual Convention Shapes Up

Art Musgrave, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Hon. Harry Hays, Federal Minister of Agriculture, John Fisher, Centennial Commissioner, and Mr. A. M. Brownlee have accepted invitations to speak at the next F.U.A. annual convention in Edmonton, December 7-11.

The OFA president is to present the Ontario experience with producer marketing boards. There are

about 17 such marketing boards operating in Ontario at present, with experience going back over a decade.

The Alberta Farm Machinery act will be Mr. Brownlee's topic. This piece of legislation is under fire from farm organizations because among other things, responsibility for defective implements is not clearly fixed by law. Mr. Brownlee has been asked to explain the workings of the present act to the convention delegates.

CENTENNIAL

"Mister Canada", John Fisher will speak Wednesday evening. As Canada heads down the final stretch toward the 1967 Centennial Celebration, plans and projects slated for the observance are receiving increased attention from the public. Mr. Fisher will discuss the part farmers can play in the celebration of Canada's 100 years of nationhood.

A return engagement is also on the program. Federal Minister of Agriculture Harry Hays spoke to last year's convention in Calgary. At that time he had been minister for only a short time. Since then, Mr. Hays has made a name for himself with his unorthodox methods and ideas. He has also

taken time to tour agricultural areas in Europe and Russia.

Master Farmers For 1964

The Alberta Department of Agriculture today announced the 1964 winners of Master Farm Family Awards. They are the Charles Moore family of Debolt, winners in the Peace River Region; and the Ken Burns family of Didsbury, winners in the western region.

The Master Farm Family award is designed to recognize farm families with a high standard of achievement in terms of good farming and good citizenship. Up to five farm families can qualify for the award in any year if they measure up to this high standard.

In making the announcement Alberta's Minister of Agriculture, the Honorable Harry E. Strom, noted that the award does not judge one farm against another but rather against the standard set up for the Master Farm Family. This is the reason only two awards are being made this year. Mr. Strom said this high standard typifies the objectives it is desirable to have farmers reach through the programs and policies of the Department of Agriculture. He said the standard for a Master Farm family is one he would like all farmers to strive for and reach.

The Moore family run a registered grain and forage seed farm on the grey-wooded soils of the Peace River area. The Burns family operate a mixed farm east of Didsbury.

Ed Patching Appointed Crop Insurance Manager

The Honorable Harry E. Strom, Minister of Agriculture, has announced the appointment of Mr. Edwin A. Patching as General Manager of the Alberta Crop Insurance Corporation effective October 1st. The Board of the Corporation through their Chairman, Mr. J. M. McKay, have accepted Mr. Patching's application and have requested ratification by the Government.

Mr. Patching is a native Albertan. He was raised on a grain farm at Lethbridge. He is a graduate of the Olds School of Agriculture and has a B.Sc. degree in Agriculture from the University of Alberta with specialization in Field Crops and Soils.

Following graduation from the University in 1945 he was employed for two years as Instructor and Dean of Men at the Olds Agricultural School. Since 1947 he has been on the Wheat Pool staff, and for the last nine years has been Superintendent of Publicity for that organization.

Mr. Patching is married and has four daughters.

Correspondence and enquiries regarding Crop Insurance should be directed to the Manager. Offices are located at 702 - 8th St. S.W., Calgary.



Ed Patching

MEMBERSHIP TOUR

Twenty-eight canvassers who do the best job of selling Farmers' Union of Alberta memberships during Operation Sign-up (name of the F.U.A. Membership Drive this year) will be awarded tickets to a bus tour of the Pacific Northwest early next year.

This F.U.A. Membership Tour is an annual event sponsored by the United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Limited. Members taking part are chosen on the basis of points earned during the membership drive.

F.U.A. Sub-district organizations compete with each other to increase their total membership, and to get their membership returns in to Central Office earliest. Two tickets are awarded to each of the 14 F.U.A. Districts. Each district is made up of four or more sub-districts.

No district official is eligible for the award. Nor are those eligible who have won a trip in the past.

Is this a glimpse into tomorrow?

The "Cybernation" Revolution—reprinted for April 1964 issue of Liberation.

The following article, although quite long, contains one of the first sober looks into the kind of future posed for us by the development of production machines in industry which are able to operate themselves without interference from humans. This is automation—carried one step beyond, when machines begin running other machines, it is called cybernation.

The article was signed by a group who call themselves the "Ad Hoc Committee for the Triple Revolution," which *Life Magazine* calls "a group of far-out thinkers." *Life* also admits that the questions this group is asking may already be foreshadowing the voting issues we must decide on as early as 1972.

We include along with this article on the so called "triple revolution," some interesting facts and figures from the Prairie Farm Assistance Act people, and some capsule comments from a recent issue of the Country Guide—all bearing on the problems raised in agriculture by its own technological revolution. Does this indicate that some of the answers raised in the feature article may have to be found in agriculture? We invite your views! Address your thoughts to "Open Forum."

The Editors.

THE CYBERNATION REVOLUTION: A new era of production has begun. Its principles of organization are as different from those of the industrial era as those of the industrial era were different from the agricultural. The cybernation revolution has been

brought about by the combination of the computer and the automated self-regulating machine. This results in a system of almost unlimited productive capacity which requires progressively less human labour. Cybernation is already reorganizing the economic and social system to meet its own needs.

The Nature of the Cybernation Revolution

Cybernation is manifesting the characteristics of a revolution in production. These include the development of radically different techniques and the subsequent appearance of novel principles of the organization of production; a basic reordering of man's relationship to his environment; and a dramatic increase in total available and potential energy.

The major difference between the agricultural, industrial and cybernation revolutions is the speed at which they develop. The agricultural revolution began several thousand years ago in the Middle East. Centuries passed in the shift from a subsistence base of hunting and food gathering to settled agriculture.

In contrast, it has been less than two hundred years since the emergence of the Industrial Revolution, and direct and accurate

knowledge of the new productive techniques has reached most of mankind. This swift dissemination of information is generally held to be the main factor leading to widespread industrialization.

While the major aspects of the cybernation revolution are for the moment restricted to the United States, its effects are observable almost at once throughout the industrial world and large parts of the non-industrial world. Observation is rapidly followed by analysis and criticism. The problems posed by the cybernation revolution are part of a new era in the history of all mankind but they are first being faced by the people of the United States. The way Americans cope with cybernation will influence the course of this phenomenon everywhere. That country is the stage on which the Machines and Man drama will first be played for the world to witness.

Man's Right to Consume

The fundamental problem posed by the cybernation revolution in the United States is that it invali-

dates the general mechanism so far employed to undergird people's rights as consumers. Up to this time economic resources have been distributed on the basis of contributions to production, with machines and men competing for employment on somewhat equal terms. In the developing cybernated system, potentially unlimited output can be achieved by systems of machines which will require little co-operation from human beings.

As machines take over production from men, they absorb an increasing proportion of resources, while the men who are displaced become dependent on minimal and unrelated government measures—unemployment insurance, social security, welfare payments. **These measures are less and less able to disguise a historic paradox: that a growing proportion of the population is subsisting on minimal incomes, often below the poverty line, at a time when sufficient productive potential is available to supply the needs of everyone in the United States.**

The existence of this paradox is denied or ignored by conventional economic analysis. The general economic approach argues that potential demand, which if filled would raise the number of jobs and provide incomes to those holding them, is underestimated. Most contemporary economic analysis states that all of the available labour force and industrial capacity is required to meet the needs of consumers and industry and to provide adequate public

services: schools, parks, roads, homes, decent cities, and clean water and air.

It is further argued that demand could be increased, by a variety of standard techniques, to any desired extent by providing money and machines to improve the conditions of the billions of impoverished people elsewhere in the world, who need food and shelter, clothes and machinery and everything else the industrial nations take for granted.

capacity of many human beings to keep pace.

A permanent impoverished and jobless class is established in the midst of potential abundance.

Evidence for these statements follow:

1. The increased efficiency of machine systems is shown in the more rapid increase in productivity per man-hour since 1960, a year that marks the first visible upsurge of the cybernation revolution. In 1961, 1962, and 1963, productivity per man-hour rose at an average pace above three and a half per cent—a rate well above the historical average and the post-war rate.

Companies are finding cybernation more and more attractive. Even at the present early stage of cybernation, costs have already been lowered to a point where the price of a durable machine may be as little as one-third of the current annual wage-cost of the worker it replaces. A more rapid rise in the rate of productivity increase per man-hour can be expected from now on.

2. In recent years it has proved impossible to increase demand fast enough to bring about the full use of either men or plant capacities. The task of developing sufficient additional demand promises to become more difficult

Income Through Jobs

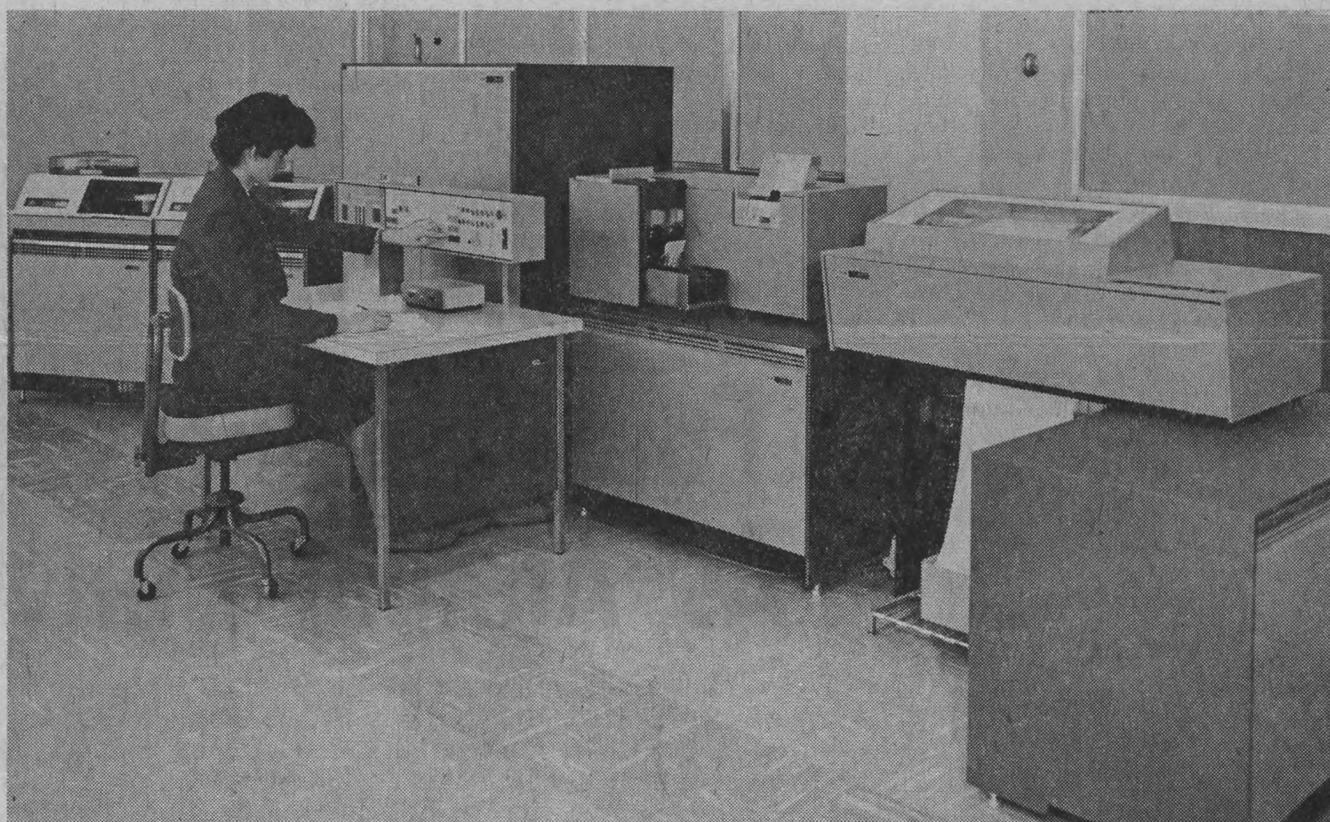
There is no question that cybernation does increase the potential for the provision of funds to neglected public sectors. Nor is there any question that cybernation would make possible the abolition of poverty at home and abroad. But the industrial system does not possess any adequate mechanisms to permit these potentials to become realities.

The industrial system was designed to produce an ever-increasing quantity of goods as efficiently as possible, and it was assumed that the distribution of the power to purchase these goods would occur almost automatically. The continuance of the income-through-jobs link as the only major mechanism for distributing effective de-

mand—for granting the right to consume—now acts as the main brake on the almost unlimited capacity of a cybernated productive system.

Recent administrations have proposed measures aimed at achieving a better distribution of resources, and at reducing unemployment and underemployment. A few of these proposals have been enacted. More often they have failed to secure Congressional support. In every case, many members of Congress have criticized the proposed measures as departing from traditional principles for the allocation of resources and the encouragement of production.

Abetted by budget-balancing



Example of data processing equipment which plays a large part in the Cybernation Revolution. Shown is an I.B.M. 1440 Electronic Data Processing System used by the First Investors Corp. in Edmonton. —Photo courtesy I.B.M.

economists and interest groups, they have argued for the maintenance of an economic machine based on ideas of scarcity to deal with the facts of abundance produced by cybernation. This time-consuming criticism has slowed the workings of Congress and has thrown out of focus for that body the inter-related effects of the triple revolution.

An adequate distribution of the

potential abundance of goods and services will be achieved only when it is understood that the major economic problem is not how to increase production but how to distribute the abundance that is the great potential of cybernation. There is an urgent need for a fundamental change in the mechanisms employed to insure rights.

Facts and Figures

No responsible observer would attempt to describe the exact pace or the full sweep of a phenomenon that is developing with the speed of cybernation. Some aspects of this revolution, however, are already clear:

The rate of productivity increase has risen with the onset of cybernation.

An industrial economic system postulated on scarcity has been unable to distribute the abundant goods and services produced by a cybernated system or potential in it.

Surplus capacity and unemployment have thus co-existed at excessive levels over the last six years.

The underlying cause of excessive unemployment is the fact

that the capability of machines is rising more rapidly than the ca-

each year. A thirty-billion-dollar annual increase in gross national product is now required to prevent unemployment rates from rising. An additional forty-to-sixty billion-dollar increase would be required to bring unemployment rates down to an acceptable level.

3. The official rate of unemployment has remained at or above five and a half per cent during the Sixties. The unemployment rate for teenagers has been rising steadily and now stands at around fifteen per cent. The unemployment rate for Negro teenagers stands about thirty per cent. The

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the organized farmer

EDITOR — PAUL BABEY
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Subscriptions — \$1.00 a year
Authorized Second Class Mail,
Post Office Department, Ottawa,
and for payment of postage in cash
FARMERS' UNION OF ALBERTA
9934 - 106 St., F.U.A. Bldg.,
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Printed by Co-op Press Ltd., Edmonton, Alta.

STATISTICS FROM THE EDMONTON OFFICE OF PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE:

(Gleaned from 17 townships selected at random in Alberta)

—Between 1959 and 1963, the total number of farms in operation in these seventeen townships dropped from 720 to 699, although there is no indication the number of acres decreased. This indicates that the average size of individual farms increased.

—Between 1959 and 1963, the number of young farmers (under age 30) dropped from 101 to 86 in these townships. This may indicate that young people are finding it harder to get started on the land.

It must also mean that a large part of the shift of population from farm to city is in the younger age groups. This points up the great need for increased educational opportunities for farm youth! If rural young people are to obtain jobs in industries other than agriculture, they must obtain the necessary qualifications.

COUNTRY GUIDE REPORT—

(From the August 1964 issue . . . The Hedlin-Menzies Report, page 11)

—If suitable alternative employment were provided, about half the farmers in Eastern Canada could leave farming to their own benefit.

—Expansion of farm size, essential in many cases, requires greater resources than most operators have.

—Children from poorer farms in eastern Canada tend to have a poorer education, especially in the technical skills needed by modern industry.

—Poorer farms in eastern Canada, says the report are a source of a continuous flow of unskilled and uneducated persons to towns and cities where they become the "hard core" of unemployed.

COUNTRY GUIDE VIEWS—

—The subject of the "farm problem" has caused distrust and ill feeling between city and country people.

—Many successful farmers have refused to believe that the problems outlined by the Hedlin-Menzies Report even existed.

—This particular kind of "farm problem," the small poor farm, is so big that it cannot be dealt with as just a farm problem. It is a social and economic problem of national significance.

unemployment rate for teenagers in minority ghettos sometimes exceeds 50 per cent. Unemployment rates for Negroes are regularly more than twice those for whites, whatever their occupation, educa-

tion level, age or sex. The unemployment position for other racial minorities is similarly unfavourable. Unemployment rates in depressed areas often exceed fifty per cent.

Under-employed, or Unemployable

These official figures seriously underestimate the true extent of unemployment. The statistics take no notice of underemployment or featherbedding. Besides the five and a half per cent of the labor force who are officially designated as unemployed, nearly four per cent of the labor force sought full-time work in 1962 but could find only part-time jobs.

In addition, methods of calculating unemployment rates — a person is counted as unemployed only if he has actively sought a job recently—ignore the fact that many men and women who would like to find jobs have not looked for them because they know there are no employment opportunities. Underestimates for this reason are pervasive among groups whose unemployment rates are high—the young, the old, and racial minorities.

Many people in the depressed agricultural, mining and industrial areas, who by official definition hold jobs but who are actually grossly underemployed, would move if there were prospects of

finding work elsewhere. It is reasonable to estimate that over eight million people are not working who would like to have jobs today as compared with the four million shown in the official statistics.

Even more serious is the fact that the number of people who have voluntarily removed themselves from the labor force is not constant but **increases continuously**. These people have decided to stop looking for employment and seem to have accepted the fact that they will never hold jobs again. This decision is largely irreversible, in economic and also in social and psychological terms.

The older worker calls himself "retired"; he cannot accept work without affecting his social-security status. The worker in his prime years is forced onto relief; in most states the requirements for becoming a relief recipient bring about such fundamental alterations in an individual's situation that a reversal of the process is always difficult and often totally infeasible.

No Place For Teenagers

Teenagers, especially "drop-outs" and Negroes, are coming to realize that there is no place for them in the labor force, but at the same time they are given no realistic alternative. These people and their dependents make up a large part of the "poverty" sector of the American population.

Statistical evidence of these trends appears in the decline in the proportion of people claiming to be in the labor force—the so-called labor-force-participation rate. The recent apparent stabilization of the unemployment rate at around five and a half per cent is therefore misleading; it is a reflection of the discouragement and defeat of people who cannot find employment and have withdrawn from the market rather than a measure of the economy's success in creating jobs for those who want to work.

Drop-Outs and Have-Nots

5. Cybernation raises the level of the skills of the machine. Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz has recently stated that the **machines** being produced today **have, on the average, skills equivalent to a high-school diploma**. If a human being is to compete with such machines, therefore, he must at least possess a high school diploma. The Department of Labor estimates, however, that on the basis of present trends as many as thirty per cent of all students will be high school drop-outs this decade.

6. A permanently depressed class is developing in the United

States. Some 38,000,000 Americans, almost one-fifth of the nation still live in poverty. The percentage of total income received by the poorest twenty per cent of the population was 4.9% in 1944 and 4.7% in 1963.

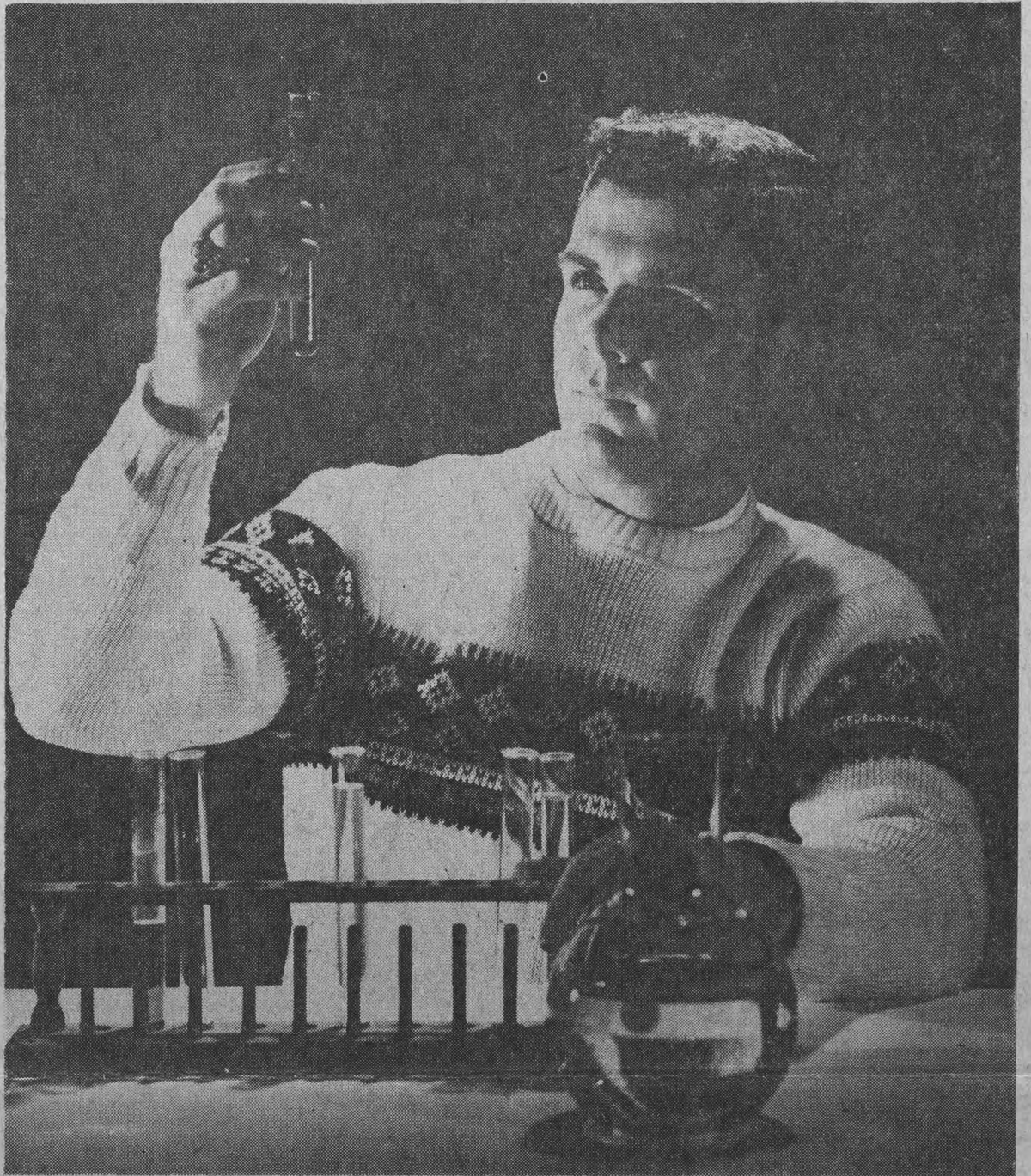
Secretary Wirtz recently summarized these trends: "The confluence of surging population and driving technology is splitting the American labor force into tens of millions of 'haves' and millions of 'have-nots.' In our economy of 69 million jobs, those with wanted skills enjoy opportunity and earning power. But the others face a new and stark problem—exclu-

sion on a permanent basis, both as producers and consumers, from economic life. This division of people threatens to create a human slag heap. We cannot tolerate the development of a separate nation of the poor, the unskilled, the jobless; living within another nation of the well-off, the trained and the employed."

Need for a New Consensus

The stubbornness and novelty of the situation that is conveyed by these statistics is now generally accepted. Ironically, it continues to be assumed that it is possible to devise measures which will reduce unemployment to a minimum

and thus preserve the overall viability of the present productive system. Some authorities have gone so far as to suggest that the pace of technological change should be slowed down "so as to allow the industrial productive system time to adapt."

**His training is essential
to our future**

Agriculture, as our most rapidly changing industry, has moved out of the handicraft stage to efficient specialization in a little more than three decades. A new breed of farmer has emerged out of the change . . . well-educated, science-guided, self-directed and management oriented. He is a man who is, by necessity, familiar with several technologies to get the best production and profit from his land, livestock, equipment, time and money.

Stressing the importance of the education and training of Alberta's young farm people, the U.F.A., in co-operation with other interested farm organizations, sponsors a series of Teen Camps during the summer months. The camps' program stresses leadership skills, community and farm organization, conservation, and careers in Agriculture and Co-operatives.

The dedication of these young people to the farming industry is **our** concern . . . and of prime importance to the future of agricultural Alberta.



**UNITED FARMERS
OF ALBERTA CO-OP**

"Owned by farmers—controlled by farmers—
and operated **SOLELY** for the benefit of farmers."

"On the contrary," say the authors of 'The Triple Revolution,' "we believe that the industrial productive system is no longer viable. We assert that the only way to turn technological change to the benefit of the individual and the service of the general welfare is to accept the process and to utilize it rationally and humanely. The new science of political economy will be built on the encouragement and planned expansion of cybernation. The issues raised by cybernation are particularly amenable to intelligent policy-making: **Cybernation itself provides the resources and tools that are needed to ensure minimum hardship during the transition process.**

But major changes must be made in our attitudes and institutions in the foreseeable future. simultaneous revolutions (in technology, in society, and in our system of values) while assuming they have them under control. In the absence of real understanding of any of these phenomena, especially of technology, we may

be allowing an efficient and dehumanized community to emerge by default.

Gaining control of our future requires the conscious formation of the society we wish to have. Cybernation at last forces us to answer historic questions: What is man's role when he is not dependent upon his own activities for the material basis of his life? What should be the basis for distributing individual access to national resources? Are there other proper claims on goods and services besides a job?

Because of cybernation, society no longer needs to impose repetitive and meaningless (because unnecessary) toil upon the individual. Society can now set the citizen free to make his own choice of occupation and vocation from a wide range of activities not now fostered by our value system and our accepted modes of "work." But in the absence of such a consensus about cybernation, the nation cannot begin to take advantage of all that it promises for human betterment.

Proposal for Action

As a first step to a new consensus it is essential to recognize that the traditional link between jobs and incomes is being broken. The economy of abundance can sustain all citizens in comfort and economic security whether or not they engage in what is commonly reckoned as work. Wealth produced by machines rather than by men is still wealth. We urge, therefore, that society, through its appropriate legal and governmental institutions, undertake an unqualified commitment to provide every individual and every family with an adequate income as a matter of right. This undertaking we consider to be essential to the emerging economic, social

and political order in this country. We regard it as the only policy by which the quarter of the nation now dispossessed and soon-to-be dispossessed by lack of employment can be brought within the abundant society. The unqualified right to an income would take the place of the patchwork of welfare measures—from unemployment insurance to relief—designed to ensure that no citizen or resident of the United States actually starves.

We do not pretend to visualize all of the consequences of this change in our values. It is clear, however, that the distribution of abundance in a cybernated society must be based on criteria strikingly different from those of an

economic system based on scarcity. In retrospect, the establishment of the right to an income will prove to have been only the first step in the reconstruction of the value system of our society brought on by the triple revolution.

The present system encourages activities which can lead to private profit and neglects those activities which can enhance the wealth and the quality of life of our society. Consequently national policy has hitherto been aimed far more at the welfare of the productive process than at the welfare of people."

The era of cybernation can reverse this emphasis. With public policy and research concentrated on people rather than processes we believe that many creative activities and interests commonly thought of as non-economic will absorb the time and the commitment of many of those no longer needed to produce goods and services. Society as a whole must encourage new modes of constructive, rewarding and ennobling activity. **Principal among these are activities, such as teaching and learning, that relate people to people rather than people to things.** Education has never been primarily conducted for profit in our society; it represents the first and most obvious activity inviting the expansion of the public sector to meet the needs of this period of transition.

We are not able to predict the long-run patterns of human activity and commitment in a nation when fewer and fewer people are involved in production of goods and services, nor are we able to forecast the overall patterns of income distribution that will replace those of the past full employment system. However, these are not speculative and fanciful matters to be contemplated at leisure for a society that may come into existence in three or four generations. **The outlines of the future press sharply into the present.** The problems of joblessness, inadequate incomes, and frustrated lives confront us now; the American Negro, in his rebellion, asserts the demands—and the rights—of all the disadvantaged. The Negro's is the most insistent voice today, but behind him stand the millions of impoverished who are beginning to understand that cybernation, properly understood and used, is the road out of want and toward a decent life.

(Continued Next Issue)

COLORADO HOSTS . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

houses the kitchen, mess hall and a unique indoor-out door stage, plus dormitory facilities for 72, restrooms and showers. Heat is provided by 7,500 feet of copper pipe which runs through the concrete floor.

The activities in the Seminar were designed to provide the participants with a comprehensive understanding of economic conditions and developments facing farmers at present and in the immediate future. Even though the problems considered were pointed towards those of the United States, they resembled situations that we have in our own country.

Exposure to these problems and conditions was made possible by the presentations of three outstanding resource people — John A. Baker Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. Robert Engler, professor at two Eastern Universities and Mr. Martin Hauan, political campaign manager. A 1½ hour lecture followed by a four hour informal discussion period which was interrupted by meals and coffee breaks.

BIG JIM PATTON

Much time was left to one's own discretion with the hope that it would be used to meet each other and become acquainted. It was during this time that I was able to learn more about corn and sugar beet farming by talking with well-informed individuals from different states. I also had the privilege

"The President's Cup"

It might not be very big. But it means a lot!

* * *

It means hard work, and good salesmanship (or saleswomanship). It means that its winner has done special service for the F.U.A. —sold more than five life memberships (worth \$100 each) between the first of August and the end of October.

It means the holder has won a ticket on next winter's **F.U.A. Membership Tour**, one of the more memorable of F.U.A. activities.

It means that the person who wins this cup went out and sold more **LIFE MEMBERSHIPS*** than any other person! Could that person be you? There is only one . . .

President's Cup

to be donated and presented by Paul Babey

•

* Life memberships can be sold to members in good standing for \$94 each until October 30, provided the money arrives at Central Office on or before that date!

CLIP OUT • CLIP OUT • CLIP OUT

TAXITS:

Did you know that in Alberta when two or more persons die in circumstances rendering it uncertain which of them survived, the younger of the two is presumed to have lived longer? Therefore the estate would go to the heirs of the younger person.

If there wasn't a will at the time of the accident this is probably what would happen in the case of a husband, older than his wife. The husband's estate would pass to the wife and then to the wife's relatives. Now this means that the tax will have to be paid on the husband's estate, and then on the wife's, even if the wife's estate consists mainly of the husband's assets.

The government is generous. At this point they allow you a 50% reduction on the wife's estate.

Had the husband made out a will, extra expense could have been avoided. Not only that, but the estate could have been divided according to his wishes.

Why throw money down the drain needlessly? Look into a proper type of will for your estate now, before it is too late.

FARM ACCOUNTING SERVICE

c/o Farmers' Union of Alberta,
9934 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alta.

CLIP OUT • CLIP OUT • CLIP OUT

OPEN FORUM

ATTENTION R.E.A. MEMBERS!

At the Provincial Rural Electrification Association meeting in Red Deer, it was brought to our attention that the farmers of this Province had invested \$60,000,000 dollars in the construction of power lines to serve the rural areas. These local R.E.A.'s have \$17,000,000 in their deposit reserve account.

This \$17,000,000 dollars is on loan to Calgary Power who have assets of \$25,000,000 dollars. Calgary Power pays the R.E.A.'s \$850,000 in interest each year as a return on their investment. Calgary Power nets \$8,000,000 on their investment.

The provincial government has spent \$50,000,000 on the con-

struction of Dam sites which will be turned over to the Power Companies as required at cost without interest.

In the Master Contract between Calgary Power and the R.E.A.'s there is an agreement that for each commercial connection on the R.E.A. line Calgary Power will pay \$125.00 to the R.E.A. In return for this \$125.00 Calgary Power will acquire \$125.00 worth of Our line at depreciated value. I wonder if the farmers will have any more than a deposit reserve account at the end of 30 years?

I also wonder if any cabinet minister holding a large block of this stock would vote "YES" in creating a public utility?

Norman Flach

NOVEMBER 9th IS SIGN-UP DAY

of meeting and becoming acquainted with the National Farmers' Union President James Patton.

Out of the twenty-five states that have a Farmers' Union, twelve states sent delegates to the Seminar. Each evening the group of seventy-five participants would view films for one hour. The evenings' activities were rounded out by dancing, singing, playing cards or visiting.

The camp ended Wednesday evening with a banquet followed by a humorous and enjoyable program.

Early Thursday morning we left Bailey with the intention of doing a little more sight-seeing on the way and that is exactly what we did!

Just outside of Denver we toured the Red Rock Theatre. This is an outdoor theatre formed naturally by the wind and water erosion of three million years. In Denver we went on a guided tour of the National Farmers' Union Office. This new, ten story building is atomic bomb-proof. We also spent a couple of hours shopping; however, I saw no real bargains. In the afternoon we continued our travel northward through the Grand Teton and Yellowstone Parks. The eruption of Old Faithful was a sight to behold.

HOME AGAIN

Shortly after crossing the border into Montana our fun-loving group split up — each person

headed the shortest way home. One couple invited me to spend the week-end on their ranch, so of course, wishing to make my holiday longer, I accepted.

On their 1700 acre ranch they raise only cattle. A mountain range runs across their land. On Sunday afternoon we went for a drive up one mountain in a jeep pickup. At times the grade was so steep that this 4 wheeled-drive jeep would spin. From this mountain we could view the fields of strip farming up to the Canadian border, one hundred and fifty miles away. After hearing episodes of killing rattle snakes near their ranch house earlier this summer, I was overly careful in watching where I stepped.

After a fourteen hour bus trip from Great Falls I arrived home tired and with mixed emotions. Happy about the wonderful time I had had, yet sad that it was all over.

P.S. An added bit of humor.

A young man was taking a survey to find out what people would do if they had a million dollars. The first man he met on the street corner was a doctor. When asked what He'd do with a million dollars he said that he would tour Alaska and the other states. The second man was a lawyer. He said that if he had a million dollars he would travel through Europe and tour the world. The third man who came along was a farmer. When asked the same question he replied, "I'd farm, an' farm, an' farm, until it was all gone."